

**Area expansion of the imported Nearctic cicadelline leafhopper
Graphocephala fennahi Young 1977 in Western Europe
(Homoptera: Auchenorrhyncha)**

by
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Abstract

New collecting records of *G. fennahi* show this Nearctic leafhopper species imported to the Old World having expanded its colonizing area in Europe. Given food plant data indicate the species in Europe not feeding exclusively on *Rhododendron* spp.

Introduction

The *Auchenorrhyncha* species *Graphocephala fennahi* Young 1977 was imported from the Nearctic region to Europe (England) probably about 1930 (Morcos 1953). In 1971, it was recorded for Switzerland (Günthart 1971), and 1986 for Northern Germany (Olthoff 1986, Niedringhaus & Olthoff 1986). These data let expect the species to occur more widely distributed in Western Europe.

New collection records and ecological notes

By this, the following new collecting records are given. The data of the plant species *G. fennahi* was collected on indicate that *G. fennahi* is not feeding exclusively on *Rhododendron* spp. in Europe as recorded for N. America (Hamilton 1985):

Kiel: 2 ♂♂, leg. K. Brennan 30.7.1984, *Tilia* spp.; Hannover: 1 ♂, 1 ♀, leg. K. Brennan 2.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Braunschweig: 1 ♀, leg. K. Brennan 4.8.1985, *Azalea* spp.; Osnabrück: 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀, leg. G. Freund 8/1983, *Robinia pseudoacacia*; Münster: 1 ♂, leg. G. Freund 8/1983, without plant record; Düsseldorf: 1 ♀, leg. G. Freund 4.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Koblenz: 1 ♂, leg. J. Reis 8/1985, *Forsythia*; Saarbrücken: 1 ♀, leg. J. Reis 6.8.1985, *Tilia* spp.; Würzburg: 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂, leg. R. Sergel 4.8.1986, *Viburnum rhytidophyllum*; München: 1 ♀, leg. J. Reis 28.8.1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Brüssel: 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀, leg. G. Freund 9/1984, without plant record; near Arnhem: 1 ♀, leg. G. Freund 9/1984, unidentified shrub; Paris: 1 ♀, leg. G. Freund 8/1985, *Rhododendron* spp.; Wien: 1 ♂, leg. J. Reis 8/1986, *Pieris japonica*; Kopenhagen: 1 ♂, leg. T. Hemmer 25.8.1986, without plant record.

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